



Civil Air Patrol • Great Lakes Region HQ

Public Affairs Directorate

AUXILIARY OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Col. Joseph S. King • Director of Public Affairs • (847) 899-3257 • jkking@cap.gov

<http://glr.cap.gov>

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE INTERNAL RELEASE:

Contact:

Col. Joseph S. King, CAP
Director of Public Affairs
(847) 899-3257

Congressional telephone campaign starts Today

Today is the first day of a two-day effort to contact your Senator or Congressman in order to ask them to cosponsor one of the bills that would authorize a Congressional Gold Medal for CAP WW II veterans. Remember, we need them to cosponsor the bill now, not just support it when it comes to a vote.

Phone tips:

--- Unless C-Span is showing reruns, it appears that both the Senate and House are in session. You may call a local district office if you'd prefer. Your message should still be delivered.

--- You will most likely end up speaking with a staff member. This is fine. The staff regularly filters what their bosses' see, and don't see. Present your story to them. You may be referred to a specific staffer at another office. Get their name and phone number, and get in touch with them right away.

--- Prior to the call, read and/or download the bills so that you can answer any questions. S 418 HR 719

--- Besides having a working knowledge of the bills, review some of the history of CAP's WW II involvement. You can find some excellent information at the NHQ website. You might be engaged in conversation, or asked questions.

--- Jot down a brief script:

--- You can obtain contact information for your Senator or House Representative at www.congress.org. Enter your Zip +4 in the box in the upper right corner. You can then click on the link to your Senator or House Representative. The contact tab has the office telephone number. You might also check the committee tab. If he/she is a member of the Homeland Security, or Military Affairs committees, you might note that they should have a special interest in this bill.

I am a constituent, and member of the Civil Air Patrol. My purpose in calling is to request that [insert name] signs on as a cosponsor to [mention either S 418 (Senate) or HR 719 (House)]. The legislation is intended to recognize the heroic contributions of WW II CAP veterans who provided a variety of services in support of the war effort on the home front. CAP is noted for flying coastal patrols spotting German U-Boats that were sinking U.S. supply ships. CAP pilots added small bombs to their privately owned aircraft and are credited with the actual sinking of two enemy submarines. We are hoping that [insert name] will sign on as a cosponsor. Thank you.

PAOs, don't hesitate to keep this issue on the front-burner with your wing members. We owe this effort to those who risked their lives during the early days of CAP.

Please ask your members to provide you with feedback from their calls. I'd appreciate it if you would upchannel this information to me. I'll forward it to NHQ.

Thanks for your help in support of this measure. Let's have GLR lead the way in arranging sponsorship for these bills.